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NEWQUAY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR 1965



## NEWQUAY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

## Public Health Committee

1965

Chairman

Councillor E.H. Barlow

Vice Chairman

Councillor W.J. Rogers

## Members

Councillors C.A. Beasant

R.W. Butterworth

W.T. Crabb

J. L. Hunt J. P.

E.R. Leverton

A. Millward

N.J. Minns

R. Robinson

Mrs. C.I. Triniman



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To the Chairman and Members of the Council,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Newquay Urban District for the year 1965.

The birth rate was above the figure for England and Wales and the death rate was lower. Coinciding with the increased birth rate, it is pleasant to record that there was a drop in the Infant Mortality Rate. All the infant deaths occurred in the first two days, thereafter the absence of further mortality speaks highly of parental care and all the agencies associated with the health of infants.

A sharp outbreak of Sonne Dysentery occurred in the latter part of the year, but showed signs of being contained by the end of 1965. There were few notifications of infectious disease.

It is pleasant to record that the Council is actively pursuing its programme of providing adequate sewage disposal, by means of larger mains capable of dealing with the greatly increased flow of sewage which occurs in the summer months.

The sections dealing with the Sanitary Circumstances are the work of the Chief Public Health Inspector and his Staff. It will be noted that 100% meat inspection was carried out, and frequent visits paid to food premises. In a town like Newquay, with a tremendous increase in food handling by imported labour and people employed only seasonally, vigilance in food inspection is of paramount importance. No cases of food poisoning were notified.

I must thank the Officers of the Council for their co-operation and help, and I must particularly thank your Chief Public Health Inspector and the Staff of the Public Health Department for their assistance at all times.

I would like to thank the Public Health Committee for their unfailing courtesy and interest.

I have the honour to be,

Your Obedient Servant,

J. McGovern.





STATISTICAL, NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,290
Population	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11,810
Number of Inhabited Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,297
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£729,049
Product of Penny Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£2,950

Newquay is essentially a holiday town and the tourist trade is the major industry. The urban district has much to offer the visitor, both in natural surroundings and in climatic conditions. The rural countryside which encloses the town inland consists of agricultural land where both arable and dairy farming are carried out. On the seaward side Newquay is fortunate to possess several beaches of quite outstanding beauty which prove an evergrowing attraction to visitors. The climate is mild but bracing, the rainfall averages 34 inches per year, and temperatures 51<sup>0</sup>F.

Mr. F.J. Harris, the Council's Meteorological Observer has again very kindly supplied the following information:-

GENERAL WEATHER STATISTICS 1965

	TOTAL RAINFALL (INCHES)		TOTAL SUNSHINE (HOURS)		AVERAGE TEMPERATURE (DEGREES F)	
	NORMAL	1965	NORMAL	1965	NORMAL	1965
January	3.59	5.13	56.3	75.3	44	42
February	2.75	0.12	77.0	62.1	43	40
March	2.52	3.39	133.8	147.4	45	45
April	2.04	1.10	173.7	198.9	48	48
May	1.96	2.17	214.4	174.2	52	53
June	1.81	2.41	223.0	202.8	57	56
July	2.37	4.68	201.1	165.4	60	58
August	2.66	2.50	193.7	179.2	61	60
September	2.45	4.57	157.0	130.5	58	55
October	3.90	0.52	111.4	152.1	53	55
November	3.75	4.93	73.5	74.9	48	46
December	4.24	7.11	49.5	59.0	45	46
YEAR	34.04	38.63	1664.0	1621.8	51	50



<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>				<u>Rate per 1000 Population</u>	
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Newquay</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales</u>
Legitimate	87	100	201	17.2	
Illegitimate	8	6			
Corrected for comparison with other areas				19.4	18.1
<u>ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS</u> Percent of total live births				7.0	7.7
<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>				<u>Rate per 1000 Live &amp; Still Births</u>	
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Newquay</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales</u>
Legitimate	3	0	4	19.5	15.8
Illegitimate	0	1			
<u>TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS</u>					
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>		
	98	107	205		
<u>INFANT DEATHS</u>					
Legitimate	4	1	5		
Illegitimate	0	0			
Rate per 1000 total live births				24.87	19.0
Rate per 1000 legitimate births				26.70	
Rate per 1000 illegitimate births				0	
<u>NEO-NATAL DEATHS (UNDER 4 WEEKS)</u>					
	4	1	5	24.87	13.0
<u>EARLY NEO-NATAL DEATHS (UNDER 1 WEEK)</u>					
	4	1	5	24.87	
<u>PERINATAL DEATHS (Still Births and Deaths Under 1 Week)</u>				<u>Rate per 1000 Live &amp; Still Births</u>	
	7	2	9	43.9	26.9
<u>MATERNAL DEATHS</u>					
	Nil	Nil	Nil	0	0.25
<u>DEATHS (All Ages and Causes)</u>				<u>Rate per 1000 Population</u>	
	82	90	172	14.56	
Corrected for comparison with other areas				10.34	11.5

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	0	0	0
2. Tuberculosis (Other)	0	0	0
3. Syphilitic Diseases	0	0	0
4. Diphtheria	0	0	0
5. Whooping Cough	0	0	0
6. Meningococcal Infections	0	0	0
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
8. Measles	0	0	0
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	0	0	0
10. Malignant Neoplasm (Stomach)	5	4	9
11. Malignant Neoplasm (Lung Bronchus)	7	2	9
12. Malignant Neoplasm (Breast)	0	4	4
13. Other Malignant Lymphatic Neoplasms	5	7	12
14. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	0	1	1
15. Diabetes	1	1	2
16. Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	9	20	29
17. Coronary Disease Angina	17	10	27
18. Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	2	3
19. Other Heart Diseases	10	17	27
20. Other Circulatory Diseases	2	6	8
21. Pneumonia	4	3	7
22. Bronchitis	2	1	3
23. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	3	0	3
24. Ulcers of the Stomach and Duodenum	0	2	2
25. Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	0	1
26. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	12	7	19
27. Accidents	1	2	3
28. Suicide	1	2	3
	<hr/>		
Totals	82	90	172
	<hr/>		

Principal Causes of Death

Heart Diseases	57
Cancer (all Forms)	35
Vascular Lesions of Central Nervous System	29
Diseases of Circulatory System	8
Diseases of Respiratory System	13

The following tabel gives the percentage distribution of age at death:-

Number Dying In Each Age Group

	Males	Females
Under 1 year	4	1
1 -	0	1
5 -	0	0
15 -	0	0
25 -	2	0
35 -	1	1
45 -	4	3
55 -	15	10
65 -	21	21
75 and over	35	53

Causes of Death In Infants Under 1 Year of Age

Cause	Age of Child in Weeks						Total
	Under						
	1	2	3	4	5	5/52	
Prematurity	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
Congenital Heart	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage Difficuilt Labour	1	-	-	-	-	-	1



GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICESTAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1. Medical Officer of Health	J. McGovern, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. Area Health Office, Moorland Road, St. Austell. Telephone St. Austell 2206.
2. Chief Public Health Inspector	F. Pickering, F.A.P.H.I.,
3. Deputy Public Health Inspector	H.L. Old, M.A.P.H.I.
4. Additional Public Health Inspector	E.V. John, M.A.P.H.I.
5. Additional Public Health Inspector	R.F. Phin, M.R.S.A.S.
6. Rodent Operative	T.L. Richards
7. Clerk	Miss M.A.B. Weston

LABORATORY  
FACILITIES

These are available at the Public Health Laboratory,  
Royal Cornwall Infirmary (City) Truro.

PROPHYLACTICS

Supplies of prophylactics against Poliomyelitis,  
Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus are available  
at the Area Health Office, St. Austell, and can be  
obtained by General Practitioners on request.

AMBULANCE  
SERVICE

The control centre for the Ambulance Service is at  
Truro.

NURSING SERVICE

A second Health Visitor was obtained for Newquay  
before the end of 1965. The nursing staff now  
consists of two General Nursing and Midwifery Nurses  
full time, plus one part time, in addition to the  
two Health Visitors.

INFANT WELFARE

Clinics are held fortnightly and the attendances have  
averaged as follows:-

Newquay ..... 40.5

St. Columb Minor ..... 26

HOME HELP SERVICE

Home help was provided in 39 homes, six for home  
confinements. The home help establishment corresponds  
to 3 full time home helps. The provision of service  
during the summer months proves difficult, due to

demand for female labour by the Tourist Industry.

#### CLINICS

The following clinics are held at the places and dates indicated:-

Relaxation	St. Michaels Hall	Weekly Tuesdays
Child Welfare	Red Cross Hall on	1st & 3rd Thursdays
" "	St. Columb Minor	
	Community Hall on	2nd & 4th Thursdays
Orthopaedic	Ambulance Hall	Weekly Thursdays
Ante-natal	Hospital	Weekly Mondays
Tuberculosis	Hospital	1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesdays
Ophthalmic	Hospital	By arrangement
Ear, Nose & Throat	Hospital	2nd & 4th Tuesdays
Dental	Berry Road	By arrangement

#### WELFARE FOODS

This service is organised by the W.V.S. representative Mrs. Davey. Supplies are available at the Red Cross Hall every Wednesday 10 a.m. to 12 a.m. and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and also at the Village Hall, St. Columb Minor on the 2nd and 4th Thursday afternoon from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

#### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

#### WATER SUPPLY

1965 was the last complete year of the provision of water supplies by the Newquay and District Water Company, a new Board known as the North and Mid Cornwall Water Board having been formed to undertake water supplies from 1st April, 1966.

With the exception of twelve dwellings, the Water Company has provided the Urban District with a regularly tested water supply. The water is not plumbo solvent and is satisfactory in quality and quantity. Sampling for both bacteriological and chemical analysis is regularly carried out, by both the Water Company Staff and Officers of the Public Health Department. During 1965, 105 samples were taken by the Water Company Staff and 119 by the Public Health Staff, and a uniformly good standard was maintained.

#### DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The very great increase in population which occurs in the summer months throws a considerable strain on the present sewage system, the position being further aggravated during periods of heavy rainfall. However, the Council has been pressing ahead with necessary work and it is hoped the problem will be solved in the near future.



The Public Health Department undertakes the destruction of rats by treatments of the sewers.

#### STREAM POLLUTION

On account of past evidence of pollution of the streams which flow across the beaches, regular checks are made. Steps have been taken to prevent, so far as possible, the contamination by discharge of sewage from cesspit overflow into streams. Chlorination of streams has also been instituted and it is hoped that shortly all possible contamination can be avoided by local sewerage of those parts of the districts away from the main system.

#### PUBLIC CLEANSING

Regular collection of refuse occurs and the paper bag system has been instituted in other areas of the town. It is hoped that next year the whole of the town will be on the paper bag collection.

#### PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The care and control of public conveniences is under the Public Health Department and regular inspections are carried out by the Public Health Inspectors.

Two new sets of conveniences have been erected and put into use during the year and are filling a necessity at both West Pentire and at Crantock Beach.

Another set of conveniences has been delayed somewhat in erection at the Railway Station but it is hoped they will be in use during 1966.

#### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following statement is furnished under Article 27 of the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations 1935, and Article 19 of the Sanitary Officers Orders 1936:-

Inspections made for all purposes .....	5580
Complaints dealt with .....	247
Notices Served - Formal .....	3
- Informal .....	98



SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS DURING 1965

Infectious Diseases .....	126
Disinfections .....	5
Disinfestations .....	1
Water Supply .....	146
Water Samples .....	119
Drainage .....	750
Drains Tested .....	227
New W.C.'s .....	122
Stables and Piggeries .....	34
Poultry Keeping .....	7
Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order .....	6
Rats and Mice .....	135
Insect Pest Control .....	9
Pet Animal Act .....	5
Fried Fish Shops .....	24
Bakehouses .....	15
Factories .....	174
Places of Entertainment .....	1
Schools .....	11
Public Conveniences .....	395
Shops and Offices Sanitary Provisions .....	19
Sewage Works .....	21
Stream Pollution .....	148
Refuse Disposal .....	33
Tents, Vans and Sheds .....	21
Camping Sites .....	178
Hackney Carriages .....	62
Rag Flock Premises .....	2
Petroleum Premises .....	52
Hairdressers etc. ....	9
Swimming Pools .....	38
Weed Control .....	14
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act .....	269
Smoke Nuisances .....	6
Smell Nuisances .....	14
Animal Nuisances .....	3
Miscellaneous Visits .....	127

UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACT

Number of houses inspected .....	14
Visits paid to above houses .....	18

UNDER HOUSING ACTS

Number of houses inspected .....	28
Visits paid to above houses .....	43

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 3,389

3389

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND FOODS

Slaughterhouses .....	1129
Butchers .....	52
Pressed and Preserved Meat Premises .....	35
Fishmongers and Poulterers .....	26
Dairies and Milkshops .....	16
Ice Cream Premises .....	99
Ice Cream Samples .....	166
Milk Samples : Bacteriological .....	20
Restaurant and Hotel Kitchens .....	285
Mobile Shops .....	118
Grocers, Fruiterers etc. ....	98
Licensed Premises .....	7
Food and Drug Sundries .....	1
Hot Dog Stalls .....	139

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Total                      5580

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RABBIT CONTROL

The Council is a member of the St. Columb and District Rabbit Clearance Society, and during the year much effort has been made to reduce the numbers of rabbits infesting the Council's open spaces and other properties.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council employs a full time Rodent Operative, who is active throughout the year in answering complaints where rats have been suspected as being present and also assists to exterminate beetles, wasps and other pests.

INSECT PESTS

A charge is made when insect pests are dealt with on business premises but in ordinary households a free service of insect extermination is carried out.

Several infestations by vermin were dealt with during the year, some of them on caravan sites where it is sometimes difficult to work.



HOUSING

There is still a shortage of housing accommodation with an active list of 221 families, details of which are as follows:-

- (a) Number without separate houses 62
- (b) Number of unmarried persons 33
- (c) Number of persons without separate houses which are:-
  - (i) Unfit ..... 39
  - (ii) Overcrowded ..... 0
- (d) Number requiring houses for other reasons e.g. nearer work, Tied Houses, Notices etc. ....45

The classification of houses required is as follows:-

One bedroom .....	36
Two bedroom .....	80
Three bedroom .....	34
Four bedroom .....	2
Old People's Flat .....	69

The Council now own 664 permanent houses and 20 prefabs.

In addition 117 houses were built by private enterprise and 87 houses are under construction by private enterprise.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIESNumber and Type of Food Premises

Grocers	40	Butchers	10	Fried Fish Shops	6
Mixed	12	School Canteens	6	Wet Fish Shops	3
Confectioners	52	Factory Canteens	5	Cafés and Snack Bars	66
Hotels	512	Wholesale Warehouses	5	Bakehouses	4
		Licensed Premises	97	Dairies	24

Newquay has the problem of imported labour to consider, and every year there are numbers of fresh faces. Many Italians and Spaniards are employed in the Hotels, and difficulties of language are added to our troubles.

MILK SUPPLY

We have twenty five distributors of milk on our register, all of whom deliver bottled milk.

During the year sixteen visits were made to dairies in the town.

MILK TESTING

During the year twenty samples of milk were submitted to the Public Analyst in Truro for his report with the following results:-

Failed the Methylene Blue Test .....	0
Failed the Phosphatase Test .....	0
Satisfactory .....	20

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

Visits to premises during 1965 numbered one thousand, nine hundred and five, when informal discussions were had with owners and employees.

ICE CREAM

There are five manufacturers and one hundred and twenty sellers of ice cream in the town, all of which are regularly visited and are on the register.

Samples taken during the year were placed in the following Provisional Grades:-

<u>Grade I</u>	<u>Grade II</u>	<u>Grade III</u>	<u>Grade IV</u>
140	25	1	0

Ninety nine visits of inspection were made during the year.

Ice cream is a very popular commodity in Newquay, and very many shops sell it either over the counter or by means of an automatic sales point.

UNFIT FOOD

The undermentioned articles of food were found to be unfit for human consumption and were surrendered as such to us:-

93 tins Meat	12 tins Baked Beans
214 lbs. Beef	160 lbs. Vegetables
$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Bacon	4 tins Tomato Puree
2 pkts. Sausages	1 box Hake Fillets
2 legs Lamb	4 stone Haddock
10 lbs. Ox Kidney	3 stone Cod
149 lbs. Pork	6 tins Fish
1 jar Meat Paste	1 carton Prawns
2 Steak and Kidney Pies	3 jars Marmalade
303 tins Fruit	3 tins Marmalade
11 tins Fruit Juice	1 bottle Lemon Squash
3 jars Cocktail Raspberries	1 bottle Gravy Browning
1 jar Apple Jelly	6 jars Sauce
60 tins Vegetables	

Plus the following frozen foods:-

42 doz. pkts. Fish Portions	5 doz. pkts. Beefburgers
28 doz. pkts. Kipper Fillets	9 doz. Steaks
29 doz. pkts. Peas	32 doz. Crunchies
22 doz. pkts. Spinach	38 doz. Fruit Cups
7 doz. pkts. Croquettes	1 Savoury Pie
14 doz. Pies	

### SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There is one private slaughterhouse at Crantock which is the only one in the district, but by arrangement with the neighbouring St. Austell Rural District Council, all the meat at Lane Slaughterhouse is inspected by your Inspectors.

Lane Slaughterhouse is under the control of the Launceston Abattoir Company Limited, and animals are slaughtered for food every day, including Sundays. Most of the meat goes to London for sale, only about 5% coming into Newquay butcher shops.

### SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT 1933-58

The provisions of the above Acts are strictly enforced and twenty four persons are licenced as slaughtermen.

### MEAT INSPECTION

For the purpose of meat inspection, one thousand, one hundred and twenty nine visits were paid to the two slaughterhouses, and forty two thousand, one hundred and thirty carcasses were examined during the year.



CYSTICERCUS BOVIS

During the year two carcasses were found to be infected with Cysticercus Bovis.

TABLE OF ANIMALS KILLED AND INSPECTED

Type	Number	Under Tuberculin Order	Total
Cows	660	37	697
Calves	251	3	254
Other Bovines	1652	11	1663
Sheep	14476	NIL	14476
Pigs	25094	NIL	25094

The amount of meat and edible offal condemned was:-

For Tuberculosis ..... 12,264 lbs.

For Other Causes ..... 34,816 lbs.



CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number Killed	1663	697	254	14476	25094
All diseases except Tuberculosis & C. Bovis whole carcasses condemned	3	6	13	83	42
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	299	336	3	1401	3293
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	18.15	49.06	6.29	10.25	13.21

TUBERCULOSIS ONLY

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Whole carcasses condemned	2	2	--	--	--
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	26	12	--	--	691
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	1.67	2.00	--	--	2.75

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following notification of Infectious Diseases were received:-

Diseases	Number of Cases During 1965
Measles	38
Pneumonia	1
Scarlet Fever	1
Sonne Dysentery	33

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

One hundred and fourteen were given primary vaccination and twenty six were re-vaccinated.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS

Oral vaccine has now almost replaced the Salk Vaccine.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The following table shows the numbers of children immunised during the year:-

	Children Born IN Year						Total
	1965	1964	1963	1962	61/58	57/50	
A. Primary	80	97	3	7	1	2	190
Completed Triple Diphtheria and Tetanus		2			5	2	9
B. Reinforcing		7	24	5	38	20	94
Triple Diphtheria and Tetanus			2	2	63	65	132

### TUBERCULOSIS

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis during 1965. Two new notifications were received, however, and as no cases were discharged as cured, the number on the register increased from 39 to 41. The trend for several years is down and it is fairly certain this increase is only temporary.

Regular visiting of cases is carried out and examination of contacts of new cases and existing cases occurs at regular intervals. Prophylactic measures have been taken by offering B.C.G. vaccination to school children over a period of years. This vaccination provides protection against the disease during a period of life when the subject is vulnerable. When first started in Cornwall the selected age group was the school leaving group but as time has passed the selection has gradually moved to the eleven year old children. In 1965 following preliminary testing of 611 children in the selected age group, 500 received B.C.G. vaccination against Tuberculosis. Many of the children not receiving B.C.G. had already obtained protection by previous B.C.G. vaccination as contacts.



FACTORIES ACT 1937 & 1948

Inspections for the enforcement of the health provisions of the above named Act were as follows:-

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4, & 6 are enforced by the Local Authority	22	40	NIL	NIL
2. Factories not included in 1 in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority	70	13 <sup>4</sup>	1	NIL
3. Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
4. Total	92	17 <sup>4</sup>	1	NIL



